

## ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

5 A technique is described for providing service to multiple ports sharing  
common scheduling resources. According to one implementation, the scheduling  
technique of the present invention may be used to dynamically balance the frequency of  
needs of different client flows to the resource availability of the scheduling process for  
client flows which have relative time sensitive needs of service. Moreover, according  
to a specific implementations, the scheduling technique of the present invention may be  
10 used to provide efficient allocation of switching and/or scheduling resources across  
multiple ports even in the presence of dynamic port bandwidth changes.

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